Bridge over the Nakalikal canal.

434. *MR. E. K. KUNJURAMAN (*Nominated*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether the Engineering Department is aware of the fact that the people of the locality surrounding the Nakalikal canal have erected a temporary wooden bridge across the above canal in the month of Kumbham 1111 and

(*b*) whether the departmental authorities have gone and seen the above bridge ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) :

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*) : May I know, Sir, whether the Chief Engineer has at any time sent up an estimate to Government for the construction of a bridge ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : Yes, Sir.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*) : May I know, Sir, whether this wooden bridge is sufficientiy strong and durable ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : I take it that it is.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*) : May I know whether Government had any idea of getting a contribution from the people of the locality ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : No, Sir.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : May I know whether the Engineering Department has tested whether it is strong enough so that no danger may be caused to the traffic ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : No, Sir.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : May I know whether it is not in the interests of the public that the Engineering Department should test whether such bridges are strong enough ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : I will find out from the Division Officer whether he considers the bridge to be in a good condition. But I must say this—that the Department cannot take any responsibility for bridges of this sort.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*) : May I know whether any damage has been caused to the bridge during the flood season ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : I have no information.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*) : May I know whether Government will enquire into the matter ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : Yes.

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